ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for controlling an optical transmitter. Proximate to startup of the optical transmitter, the laser bias to the optical transmitter is increased from a minimum to a setpoint according to a predefined function. After the laser bias setpoint is reached, the electrical modulation amplitude is increased from a minimum to a setpoint according to a predefined function. Proximate to shutdown of the optical transmitter, the electrical modulation amplitude is decreased from the setpoint to the minimum according to a predefined function. After the electrical modulation amplitude minimum is reached, the laser bias to the optical transmitter is decreased from a setpoint to a minimum according to a predefined function.

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